

**Regular Council Meeting
April 14, 2009**

I. Meeting Called to Order

Mayor Marse called to order the regularly scheduled meeting of April 14, 2009 at 7:00 p.m.

Members present: Mayor J. M. Marse, Council members Jean Arrant, Earl King, and Mark Martin. Council members Ray Jackson and Charlie Simmons were absent. Staff present: City Attorney Clayton Adkinson, City Engineer Representative Charles Peters (PMA), Fire Chief Ben Greenslait, City Planner Latilda Henninger and City Clerk Robin Haynes.

II. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

Councilman King gave the invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

III. Approval of Past Minutes

Councilwoman Arrant motioned to accept the minutes of the regular Council meeting of March 26, 2009 as written, Councilman King seconded. There was no public or council discussion, the motion carried 3:0.

1. Planning Issues

Ms. Henninger presented the following items:

Presented council with an annual report for 2008 showing development items reviewed by her office. She observed that while residential development was down in 2008 from 2007, commercial development was up.

Informed council and audience that Commissioner Comander was holding Walton County Visioning meeting and encouraged everyone to attend.

Requested approval to attend the State Planning Conference being held in Jacksonville in September. Councilman King approved the request, Councilwoman Arrant seconded. There was no public or council discussion, the motion carried 3:0.

Councilman Martin asked if annexation applications were still being accepted and Ms. Henninger said yes. He then encouraged audience and council to attend any of the Visioning meetings that they could for their input.

2. Legal Matters

No legal matters were presented.

3. Fire Department Report

Chief Greenslait presented the following items:

Stated that the Easter Egg hunt and Car Show had been a huge success.

Stated that the Fire Department had not been successful in their FEMA grant attempt in 2008 and requested approval to apply again in 2009. Mr. David Jones would be assisting in the grant writing for additional bunker gear, washing machines and lockers for approximately \$60,000.00. Mr. Jones requires \$500 for writing the grant and another \$500 if the grant is awarded. Councilwoman Arrant motioned to approve Mr. David Jones submitting the FEMA grant on behalf of the Fire Department, Councilman Martin seconded. There was no public or council discussion, the motion carried 3:0.

4. Parks Department Report

No parks report was submitted.

5. Engineer's Report

Mr. Charles Peters told the council that the pumping test for well #7 had been completed and construction had begun on the well house. The wastewater treatment plant upgrades still had a couple of issues with the SCADA system, but should be closed out by the end of the month. He stated that he had begun gathering the information required for North Bay Phase II for the Rural Development loan/grant and felt confident of it being funded.

IV. Old Business

No items were presented.

V. New Business

1. Dayco – Franchise fee rates

Mr. Bud Day, representing Dayco, requested an increase in the garbage franchise fee rates as indicated:

- Household garbage pick up from \$7.70 to \$10.34 (rate to include once a week collection of household garbage, and once a month collection of yard waste, furniture and white goods)
- Commercial garbage pick up from \$3.39 per cubic yard to \$3.81 per cubic yard.

Councilman Martin motioned to approve the rate increase as presented, Councilman King seconded. There was no public or council discussion, the motion carried 3:0.

3. Approval request/Letters of Support

Mr. Cliff Knauer requested approval for a letter of support for Freeport Shipyard's grant application request. They are applying for funding of a 300 ton travel lift costing approximately \$5,000,000.00. The grant, if awarded, would fund 75% or \$4,000,000.00 with Freeport Shipyard having to come up with the remaining \$1,000,000.00. Councilwoman Arrant motioned to approve the letter of support, Councilman Martin seconded. There was no public or council discussion, the motion carried 3:0.

Mr. Knauer requested approval for a letter of support for Destin Fisherman's Co-op. They are applying to the same grant program and requesting approximately \$1,700,000.00 for a second travel lift. They are applying to have the 25% match waived, since they are a non-profit organization. Councilman Martin motioned to approve the letter of support, Councilman King seconded. There was no public or council discussion, the motion carried 3:0.

4. Approval request/Attendance to Florida Association of City Clerks Conference

Councilman King approved City Clerk Haynes attending the annual FACC conference in June, Councilman Martin seconded. There was no public or council discussion, the motion carried 3:0.

5. Approval request/Proclamations

Councilman King motioned to approve the following proclamations as presented:

- National Volunteer Week/ April 19th – April 25th 2009
- Municipal Clerks Week/ May 3rd – May 9th 2009
- National Public Works/ Week May 17th – May 23rd 2009

Councilman Martin seconded. There was no public or council discussion, the motion carried 3:0.

6. Updates – Communities for a Lifetime

Clerk Haynes informed the council that CFAL was sponsoring a Volunteer Recognition luncheon on April 23, 2009 at 11:00 and the CFAL Board would be attending the 2009 Elder Summit in Tallahassee on May 26, 2009.

Clerk Haynes also informed council that the City had been notified regarding receipt of approximately \$110,000.00 from DOT economy stimulus funds for the upgrading of the sidewalk from 331 Business to Kylea Laird Dr. Mayor Marse had requested that the project be changed to begin at Kylea Laird Drive and continue east as far as the money would go. The City is waiting on a response regarding the change request.

7. Pay all bills in order

Councilman Martin motioned to pay all bills in order, Councilman King seconded. There was no public or council discussion, the motion carried 3:0.

VI. Council Business Not On Agenda

Mayor Marse stated that he had attended a meeting with Ronnie Bell, Dawn Moliterno, and some mayors in southern Alabama regarding forming a coalition and publicity campaign for the widening of Highway 331. Council agreed that Mayor Marse should continue talks with the other mayors.

VII. Public Business Not On Agenda

None was presented.

VIII. Adjournment

Councilman Martin motioned to adjourn at 8:00 p.m.

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

J.M. Marse, Mayor

Robin Haynes, City Clerk

Earl King, Council President